

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Original) An electric potential fixing apparatus that fixes electric potential of a connection line connecting a first capacitance and a second capacitance connected directly to the first capacitance, the electric potential fixing apparatus comprising a voltage supply unit, having at least two high impedances, operable to maintain constantly electric potential of the connection line, holding a total amount of electric charge of the first capacitance and the second capacitance,
wherein an output terminal of the voltage supply unit is connected to the connection line.

2. (Currently Amended) An electric potential fixing apparatus that fixes electric potential of a connection line connecting a first capacitance and a second capacitance connected directly to the first capacitance, the electric potential fixing apparatus comprising a voltage supply unit, having at least two high impedances, operable to output a same electric potential as electric potential of an operation signal applied to the connection line,
wherein an output terminal of the voltage supply unit is connected to the connection line.

3. (Original) The electric potential fixing apparatus according to Claim 1 or Claim 2,

wherein the voltage supply unit includes a first high resistance, a second high resistance connected directly to the first high resistance, and a voltage dividing unit that outputs electric potential divided by the first high resistance and the second high resistance.

4. (Original) The electric potential fixing apparatus according to Claim 1 or Claim 2,

wherein the voltage supply unit includes an amplifier, a predetermined voltage applying unit, a first high resistance, a second high resistance and the output terminal,

one terminal of the first high resistance is connected to the amplifier,
another terminal of the first high resistance and one terminal of the second high resistance are connected,

the output terminal is connected between the other terminal of the first high resistance and the one terminal of the second high resistance, and

another terminal of the second high resistance and the predetermined voltage applying unit are connected.

5. (Currently Amended) A capacitance measurement apparatus comprising the electric potential fixing apparatus according to ~~any one of Claim 1 ~ Claim 4~~ claim 1 or claim 2,

wherein the electric potential fixing apparatus further includes a first operational amplifier,
the first capacitance is a measuring capacitance,
the connection line between the two capacitances is a signal line and
an input terminal of the first operational amplifier is connected to the signal line.

6. (Original) The capacitance measurement apparatus according to Claim 5,

wherein the electric potential fixing apparatus further includes a second operation amplifier and
an output terminal of the second operational amplifier is connected to the second capacitance.

7. (Original) An electric potential fixing method for fixing electric potential of a connection line between two capacitances, a first capacitance and a second capacitance connected directly to the first capacitance,

wherein with electric potential divided using at least two high impedances as output electric potential, the output electric potential is applied to the connection line

between the two capacitances and the output electric potential is fixed at output potential at which there is no input and output of electric current to and from the connection line.

8. (Original) An electric potential fixing method for fixing electric potential of a connection line between a first capacitance and a second capacitance connected directly to the first capacitance,

wherein with electric potential divided using at least two high impedances as output electric potential, the output electric potential is applied to a connection line between the two capacitances and the output electric potential is set up to be equal to electric potential of an operation signal applied to a connection line between the two capacitances.

9. (Original) The electric potential fixing method according to Claim 7 or Claim 8,

wherein either the first capacitance or the second capacitance is used as a measuring capacitance.